

Data Standards and Recommendations Committee

To: Indiana GIS Initiative
From: Jeff Sewell
Date: March 5, 2002
Re: February 6, 2002 Meeting Minutes (revised)

In Attendance:

David Glenn, INDOT
Bob Wilkinson, IDNR
Roger Koelpin, ITOC
EJ McNaughton, IDEM
Kurt Babcock, IDNR
Jill Saligoe-Simmel, IGIC Chair
Larry Stout, Hamilton County
Jeff Sewell, IDEM

Topics:

Feature Metadata Standard

Status: Draft

During the meeting: The group went over the draft standard and made comments and recommendations for revisions. The group also discussed how to introduce this standard to the Land and County Surveyor communities at large, and various opportunities for outreach to these groups. It is important to convey the idea that the GIS community recognizes the limitations in data created by methods that are not capable of survey quality accuracy, and this standard is intended to improve data documentation so that the accuracy of the data is clear and well documented.

Homework:

1. Jeff Sewell will incorporate comments and work towards final draft for distribution to Council next council meeting. Additional comments can be sent to Jeff at jsewell@dem.state.in.us Comments from the meeting that will be addressed:
 - Adding a section that clarifies who the standard is applicable to.
 - Revising terminology to make it more readable - especially with respect to the use of the FGDC terminology "elements", "compound elements" etc.
2. Jill Saligoe-Simmel will ask Council to vote on whether or not to release the standard for public comment approximately 2 weeks after they receive it. Due to the outreach to the surveying community that needs to happen for this standard, we will plan on an extra long comment period.
3. Roger Koelpin will initiate contact with "Road School" hosts to see if we can host a session, get on the agenda, or otherwise introduce the standard to the surveyors attending this event. This has been done as of 2/21/02. Jeff Sewell and Bob Wilkinson are on the agenda to give a presentation to this group.
4. Jeff Sewell will continue to coordinate a session on Feature Metadata at the INGISI Conference.

Draft Projections, Datum, and Coordinate System Standard

http://www.in.gov/ingisi/pdf/draft_proj_datum.pdf

Status: Draft Open for Public Comment as of 6/26/01.

During the meeting: The group continued the discussion regarding concerns that this standard contains 2 separate standards to address various user groups' needs. The primary issue was identified as the difficulty in sharing raster data that is not in the same projection or coordinate system. Unlike vector data, which can be reprojected on the fly, raster data (such as aerial imagery) requires specialized software and takes time & resources to reproject. Due to the difficulty in getting all groups to move to a single system, the group decided that the standard was appropriate as written.

There was also discussion about investigating the possibility of creating a state-wide state plane zone as Kentucky has done. All agreed that this item should be moved to the top of the agenda for the Standards & Recommendations Committee due to the benefits of a single state-wide State Plane zone, with the understanding that a large effort would need to be made in terms of outreach to the stakeholders that would be affected by the change.

Homework:

1. Roger Koelpin will draft a "sidebar" for the standard to acknowledge the difficulty in presenting a one-size-fits-all standard.
2. Roger Koelpin and Jill Saligoe-Simmel will begin investigating the single State Plane zone idea with various stakeholders, and report back on their recommendations for next steps. Bob Wilkinson was identified as a good resource on this subject due to his knowledge of the subject, and involvement in

Future Standard Development Projects

GIS File Exchange Standard – This standard would provide a reference for what file formats can be read or converted between the various GIS and CADD software in popular use. It was noted that identifying to the degree possible how much error is introduced by the conversion process would also be beneficial. David Glenn offered input into the standard, but could not commit the time to authoring a standard. Larry Stout seemed to be particularly knowledgeable about this subject, and would also be a good resource, but is also unable to commit the time to authoring the standard. Volunteers are welcome if you have an interest in this subject.

Metadata File Exchange Standard – This standard would suggest a file format for sharing metadata. Everyone agreed that there is a relatively short list of viable candidates including .txt, .html, and .xml formats. The IUPUI Library may provide some good input into this process as they try to resolve this issue with the GIS Clearing House. Nobody was volunteered to write the standard. Dan Johnson of IUPUI library (?) was identified as a good resource for this standard due to his key involvement in the INGISI GIS Data Clearinghouse. Karen Like of USGS, and Brian Murray of IDEM, also have a great deal of experience with metadata and would be good resources. Volunteers are welcome.

Next Meeting

The Next INGISI Data Standards and Recommendation Committee meeting will be on Wednesday, March 6, 2002, 10am - 12pm, at:

The Polis Center
Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI)
1200 Waterway Boulevard
Indianapolis, IN 46202

(317) 274-8400
(317) 278-1830 fax

Agenda:

1. Comments and feedback on latest Feature Metadata Standard draft.
2. Continued (final) discussion on Projections, Datum, and Coordinate System Standard draft.
3. Report on Single State Plane Zone investigation
4. Future Standard Development Projects